



## MEMORANDUM

To: Faculty, Staff, Students, Alumni, and Friends  
From: Laurence B. Alexander, J.D., Ph.D.  
Re: 1890 Land-Grant Funding  
Date: October 17, 2023

As we prepare to commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> year of the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff during our Homecoming Week celebration, I wanted to provide you with information on our quest to obtain land-grant matching funds from the state.

Each year, the administration of UAPB makes a request for state land-grant matching funds in an attempt to obtain 100 percent of the research and extension funding that the university is entitled to receive as an 1890 land-grant university. During my tenure as Chancellor, there have been years when we have received a full match from the state and years when we have not.

Apart from the issue of 1890 land-grant matching funds, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack and U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona recently wrote to Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders indicating that the state of Arkansas had not historically funded UAPB at the same level as the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, the state's 1862 land-grant university, and it offered suggestions for addressing it. You can read the contents of the letter, which accompanies this memorandum. The letter from the Secretaries indicate that the university has received \$330,935,712 less than it should have from 1987 to 2020 from the state of Arkansas. While this figure has received a lot of attention, we have not yet been able to determine how it was calculated.

As Chancellor, I have continually focused on raising the level of financial support for our institution from all sources available to us, including state, federal and private funds. While we continue to seek more information on the Secretaries' letter, I believe our focus at the state level should continue to be on advocating for 100 percent matching support of our 1890 funds and for that support to be allocated as base funding to the institution. I have communicated this to our local legislative delegation and to the Governor's Office.

I would like to thank members of the UA Board of Trustees, President Donald Bobbitt, and his staff for their support of our pursuits. Moreover, we would like to thank Governor Sanders for her ongoing efforts to fully match our current land-grant funds.



UNIVERSITY  
*of* ARKANSAS  
AT PINE BLUFF  
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While we continue to advocate on behalf of the university, our loyal alumni and friends can also support the university's efforts by contacting their state legislators to express their support for UAPB to receive the 1890 match funds that the federal government has requested from the state.

As always, we appreciate your support for the university in our quest for institutional excellence. During this Homecoming Season, we hope you have a most enjoyable time visiting Pine Bluff and UAPB. Happy Homecoming!

Go Golden Lions!

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